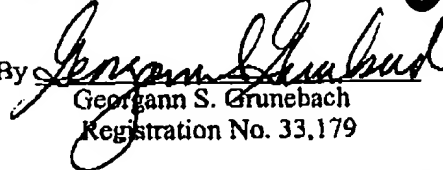


U.S. Serial No. 09/729,010
Attorney Docket No. PD-200235

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Michale H. Ficco et al.) I hereby certify that this paper (and/or
U.S. Serial No. : 09/729,010) fee) is being facsimile transmitted to
Filed : December 4, 2000) (703) 872-9306 (Centralized Facsimile
Title : Method and Apparatus for) Number) on June 30, 2004, addressed
Securing Digital Video) to: Mail Stop Amendment,
Recording) Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box
1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
Dated: June 30, 2004
By 
Georgann S. Grunebach
Registration No. 33,179
Art Unit : 2136
Examiner : Brandon S. Hoffman

OFFICIAL

Customer No. 020991

RESPONSE TO THE OFFICE ACTION DATED APRIL 5, 2004

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

In response to the Office action dated April 5, 2004, please enter the following
amendments and consider the following remarks:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins
on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 12 of this paper.

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FAX COVER SHEET**OFFICIAL****PLEASE CONFIRM RECEIPT OF THIS FACSIMILE**

Attention: Examiner: Brandon S. Hoffman

Supervisory Examiner: Ayaz Sheikh

**UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK
OFFICE**

Fax: (703) 872-9306

Examiner: Brandon S. Hoffman

Phone: (703) 305-4662

Supervisory Examiner: Ayaz Sheikh

Alt: (703) 305-9648

Pages: Cover + 2+17+4+1=25

Date: June 30, 2004

Certificate of Transmission

From: Georgann S. Grunebach

Fax: (310) 964-0941

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Georgann S. Grunebach", written over a horizontal line.
Assistant General Counsel DIRECTV

Phone: (310) 964-4615

The information contained in this facsimile is confidential and may also contain privileged attorney-client information or work product. The information is intended only for the use of the individual or entity to which it is addressed. If you are not the intended recipient, or the employee or agent responsible to deliver it to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any use, dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received the facsimile in error, please immediately notify us by telephone, and return the original message to us at the address below via the U.S. Postal Service. Thank you.

Attention: Commissioner for Patents

Please find attached Re: 09/729,010

- > Amendment Transmittal
- > Response to PTO communication dated April 5, 2004
- > Information Disclosure Statement in duplicate
- > Modified PTO form 1449

PLEASE CONFIRM RECEIPT OF THIS FACSIMILE

If you do not receive all pages, or pages are not clear, please call Karen Lum at (310) 964-0735.

PATENT
Docket No. PD-200235
CUSTOMER NO.: 020981

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Michael H. Ficco, et al.
Serial No.: 09/729,010
Filed: December 4, 2000
For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR SECURING DIGITAL
VIDEO RECORDING

Date: June 30, 2004
Group Art Unit: 2136
Examiner: Brandon S. Hoffman

TRANSMITTAL LETTER FOR AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir: Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.

____ Applicant petitions for an extension of time for months(s) to respond to the Office Action dated _____. If an additional extension of time is required, please consider this a petition therefor.

Fee \$ _____

____ An extension for _____ months(s) has already been secured; the fee paid therefor of _____ is deducted from the total fee due for the total months of extension now requested. _____
Extension fee due with this request \$ _____

☒ Applicant believes that no extension of time is required to respond to the Office Action dated April 5, 2004. However, this conditional petition is being made to provide for the possibility that applicant has inadvertently overlooked the need for a petition for extension of time.

____ No additional fee for claims is required.

☒ The fee for claims has been calculated as shown below:

CLAIMS AS AMENDED									
CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT			HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR		PRESENT EXTRA		RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE	
TOTAL CLAIMS	39	minus	53*	=	0	x	\$ 18.00	\$	\$
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS	7	minus	6**	=	1	x	\$ 86.00	\$	\$ 86.00
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS					0	+	\$ 290.00	\$	\$
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT:								\$	\$ 86.00

Charge \$ 86.00 to Deposit Account No. 50-0383 of Hughes Electronics Corporation, El Segundo, California. Please charge any additional fees for claims or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0383. If any additional extension fee is required, please charge to Deposit Account No. 50-0383.

Also Enclosed: Information Disclosure Statement
& Modified 1440 w/Fee

Respectfully submitted,

Georgann S. Grunebach
Georgann S. Grunebach, Reg. No.: 33,179
Attorney for Applicant(s)

Certification of Facsimile Transmission UNDER 37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that the correspondence identified above is being facsimile transmitted to (703) 872-8306 (Centralized Facsimile Number), addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on June 30, 2004.

The DIRECTV Group, Inc.
Patent Docket Administration
Bldg. R11, M/S A109
PO Box 856
El Segundo, CA 90245
Telephone: 310/984-4615
Date: June 30, 2004

Georgann S. Grunebach
Georgann S. Grunebach, Reg. No.: 33,179
Applicant, Assignee or Registered Representative

Date

* If less than 20, insert 20
** If less than 3, insert 3